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CASH RECEIPTS FROM MILK MARKETINGS DOWN

Total **cash receipts** from marketings of milk in SOUTH CAROLINA during 2006 was \$42.4 million, down 10 percent from the \$47.3 million marketed in 2005, the USDA NASS South Carolina Field Office reported today. The average price per 100 pounds for milk decreased from \$16.60 in 2005 to \$15.40 in 2006.

Total milk production was 278 million pounds for 2006, down 3 percent from 288 million pounds in 2005. The rate per cow, at 16,353 pounds, was 353 pounds above 2005. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 17,000, down 1,000 from 2005.

Cash receipts in the UNITED STATES from marketings of milk during 2006 totaled \$23.4 billion, 12.3 percent lower than 2005. Producer returns averaged \$12.97 per hundredweight, 14.6 percent below 2005. Marketings totaled 181 billion pounds, 2.8 percent above 2005. Marketings include whole milk sold to plants and dealers and milk sold directly to consumers. An estimated 1.14 billion pounds of milk were used on farms where produced, 0.3 percent more than 2005. Calves were fed 87 percent of this milk, with the remainder consumed in producer households.

Milk production increased 2.8 percent in 2006 to 182 billion pounds. The rate per cow, at 19,951 pounds, was 386 pounds above 2005. The annual average number of milk cows on farms was 9.11 million head, up 69,000 head from 2005.